CLAIMS

1. A compound of formula I

5 wherein each n is one or two independently

R¹ is C=O; C=S; C₁-C₂ alkyl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; C₂ alkynyl; C₃-C₇ cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; C₃-C₇ cycloheteroalkyl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; aryl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; aryl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; heteroaryl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; heteroaryl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; heteroaryl C₁-C₃ alkyl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; perhalo C₁-C₁₀ alkyl; perhalo C₁-C₁₀ alkyloxy;

R² is H; C₁-C₇ alkyl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; C₂-C₇ alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; C₂-C₇ alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; C₃-C₇ cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; aryl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; aryl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; aryl C₁-C₃ alkyl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; heteroaryl C₁-C₃ alkyl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; heteroaryl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; heteroaryl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; -SH; -SR⁵; SOR⁵; SO₂R⁵; -CHO;
25 CH(OR⁵)₂; carboxy; -CO₂R⁴; NHCONNH₂; -NHCSNH₂; -NHCONH₂; -NHCOR⁴; -NHSO₂R⁵; -O-CO-(C₁-C₅) alkyl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; cyano; nitro; halogen; hydroxy; perhalo C₁-C₇ alkyl; perhalo C₁-C₇ alkyloxy; -SO₂NH₂; -SO₂NH₂; -CONH₂; -CONH₂; -CONH₂; -CONH(R⁵); -CON(R⁵)₂; C₁-C₁₀

alkyloxy optionally substituted with R^4 independently; C_2 - C_{10} alkenyloxy optionally substituted with R^4 ; C_2 - C_{10} alkynyloxy optionally substituted with R^4 independently, aryloxy optionally substituted with R^4 independently; heteroaryloxy optionally substituted with R^4 independently;

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R³ is H; C₁-C₁₀ alkyl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; C₂-C₁₀ alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; C₂-C₁₀ alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more R4 independently; C3-C7 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more R4 independently; C3-C7 cycloheteroalkyl optionally substituted with one or 10 more R⁴ independently; aryl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; aryl C₁-C₃ alkyl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; heteroaryl C₁-C₃ alkyl optionally substituted with one or more R4 independently; heteroaryl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; C₁-C₁₀ alkyl-NH(CH₂)₁₋₄NH-aryl optionally substituted with one or more R4 independently; C1-C10 alkyl-NH(CH2)1-4NH-heteroaryl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; C₁-C₁₀ alkyl-O(CH₂)₁₋₄NH-aryl optionally substituted with one or more R4 independently; C1-C10 alkyl-O(CH2)14NHheteroaryl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; C₁-C₁₀ alkyl-O(CH₂)₁ ₄O-aryl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; C₁-C₁₀ alkyl-O(CH₂)₁₋₄Oheteroaryl optionally substituted with one or more R4 independently; C1-C10 alkyl-S(CH2)1. 20 4NH-aryl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; C₁-C₁₀ alkyl-S(CH₂)₁. ₄NH-heteroaryl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; C₁-C₁₀ alkyl-S(CH₂)₁₋₄S-aryl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; C₁-C₁₀ alkyl-S(CH₂)₁₋₄S-heteroaryl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; C₁-C₁₀ alkyl-O-C₁-C₅alkyl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴; -NHCOR⁴; -NHSO₂R⁵; -O-25 CO-(C₁-C₅) alkyl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; -SH; -SR⁵; -SOR⁵; -SO₂R⁵; -CHO; -CH(OR⁵)₂; carboxy; cyano; nitro; halogen; hydroxy; -SO₂NH₂; - $SO_2NH(R^5)$; $-SO_2N(R^5)_2$; $-CONH_2$; $-CONH(R^5)$; $-CON(R^5)_2$; $-CSNH_2$; $-CONHNH_2$; $-CO2R^4$; -NHCNHNH₂; -NHCSNH₂; -NHCONH₂;

- 30 R⁴ is C₁-C₁₀ alkyl optionally substituted with one or more R⁸ independently; C₂-C₁₀ alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more R⁸ independently; C₂-C₁₀ alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more R⁸ independently; C₃-C₇ cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more R⁸ independently; C₃-C₇ cycloheteroalkyl optionally substituted with one or more R⁸ independently; aryl optionally substituted with one or more R⁸ independently;
- 35 heteroaryl optionally substituted with one or more R⁸ independently; amino; amino

substituted with one or more C_1 - C_{10} alkyl optionally substituted with one or more R^8 ; amino substituted with one or two aryl optionally substituted with one or more R^8 independently; heteroaryl optionally substituted with one or more R^8 independently; =O; =S; -CO-R5; -COOR5; -O-CO- $(C_1$ - C_5) alkyl optionally substituted with one or more R^8 independently; $NH(CH_2)_{1-4}NH$ -aryl; $NH(CH_2)_{1-4}NH$ -heteroaryl; -NHCOR 5 ; -SOR 5 ; SO_2R^5 ; carboxy; cyano; N-hydroxyimino; nitro; halogen; hydroxy; perhalo C_1 - C_{10} alkyl; perhalo C_1 - C_{10} alkyloxy; -SH; -SR 5 ; -SO $_3$ H; -SO $_3$ R 5 ; -SO $_2$ R 5 ; -SO $_2$ NH $_2$; -SO $_2$ NH(R^5); -SO $_2$ N(R^5) $_2$; -CONH $_2$; -CONH(R^5); -CON(R^5) $_2$; -C $_1$ C $_1$ 0 alkyloxy optionally substituted with one or more R^8 independently; C_2 - C_{10} alkenyloxy optionally substituted with one or more R^8 independently; aryloxy optionally substituted with one or more R^8 independently; aryloxy optionally substituted with one or more R^8 independently; aryloxy optionally substituted with one or more R^8 independently; aryloxy optionally substituted with one or more R^8 independently; aryloxy optionally substituted with one or more R^8 independently; aryloxy optionally substituted with one or more R^8 independently; and two R^4 attached to the same carbon atom may form a spiroheterocyclic system, preferably hydantoin; thiohydantoin; oxazolidine-2,5-dione;

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 R^5 is C_1 - C_{10} alkyl optionally substituted with one or more R^8 independently; C_2 - C_{10} alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more R^8 independently; C_2 - C_{10} alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more R^8 independently; C_3 - C_7 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more R^8 independently; C_3 - C_7 cycloheteroalkyl optionally substituted with one or more R^8 independently; aryl optionally substituted with one or more R^8 independently; aryl C_1 - C_5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more R^8 independently; heteroaryl optionally substituted with one or more R^8 independently; heteroaryl C_1 - C_5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more R^8 independently;

R⁶ is H; C_1 - C_{10} alkyl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; C_2 - C_{10} alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; C_2 - C_{10} alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; C_3 - C_7 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; C_3 - C_7 cycloheteroalkyl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; aryl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently;

30 heteroaryl optionally substituted with one or more R4 independently;

R⁷ is H; C₁-C₁₀ alkyl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; C₂-C₁₀ alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; C₂-C₁₀ alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; C₃-C₇ cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; C₃-C₇ cycloheteroalkyl optionally substituted with one or

more R⁴ independently; aryl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently; heteroaryl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently;

R⁸ is H, amidoxime; nitro, tetrazole; pentafluorophenyl; -CH₂OH; -CHO; -C(OCH₃)₂; -COCH₃; -CF₃; -CCI₃; -OCF₃; -OCH₃; -CN; -CO₂H; -CO₂CH₃; -CONH₂; -CSNH₂; -CON₂H₃; -SO₃H; -SO₂NH₂; -SO₂NHCH₃; -SO₂N(CH₃)₂; -SO₂ (1-piperazinyl);-SO₂ (4-methylpiperazin-1-yl); -SO₂ (pyrrolidin-1-yl); -SO₂ (piperidin-1-yl); -SO₂ (morpholin-4-yl); N-hydroxyimino; -NHC₃; -NHCH₃; -NHCNHNH₂; -NHCNHNHCH₃; -NHCSNHCH₃; -NHCSNHCH₃; -NHCONH₂; -NHCONHCH₃; -NHCOCH₃; -NHSO₂CH₃; piperazinyl; morhpolin-4-yl;

10 thiomorpholin-4-yl; pyrrolidin-1-yl; piperidin-1-yl; halogen; -OH; -SH; -SCH₃; -aminoacetyl; -OPO₃H; -OPO₂OCH₃; -PO₃H₂; -PO(OCH₃)₂; PO(OH)(OCH₃);

R⁹ is H; halogen; C₁-C₁₀ alkyl optionally substituted with one or more R⁴ independently

15 R¹⁰ is H; halogen;

or, R⁹ and R¹⁰ may be connected to form a cyclopropyl ring;

or a salt thereof with a pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base;

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with the exception of the following compounds:

- 1,3-dimethyl-7-(2-oxo-propyl) -8-piperazin-1-yl-3,7-dihydro-purine-2,6-dione,
- 1,3,1',3',7'-pentamethyl-8-piperazin-1-yl-3,7,3',7'-tetrahydro-7,8'-methanediyl-bis-purine-2,6-dione,
- 25 3,4,5-trimethoxy-benzoic acid 2-(1,3-dimethyl-2,6-dioxo-8-piperazin-1-yl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydro-purin-7-yl) -ethyl ester,
 - 7-[2-Hydroxy-3-(4-methoxy-phenoxy) -propyl]-3-methyl-8-piperazin-1-yl-3,7-dihydropurine-2,6-dione,
 - 7-[2-hydroxy-2-(4-nitro-phenyl) -ethyl]-3-methyl-8-piperazin-1-yl-3,7,8,9-tetrahydro-purine-
- 30 2,6-dione,
 - 7-Benzyl-3-methyl-8-piperazin-1-yl-3,7-dihydro-purine-2,6-dione,
 - 7-(4-Chloro-benzyl) -3-methyl-8-piperazin-1-yl-3,7-dihydro-purine-2,6-dione,
 - 7-(2-Chloro-benzyl) -3-methyl-8-piperazin-1-yl-3,7-dihydro-purine-2,6-dione,
 - 7-Ethyl-3-methyl-8-piperazin-1-yl-3,7-dihydro-purine-2,6-dione,
- 35 3-Methyl-8-piperazin-1-yl-1,7-dipropyl-3,7-dihydro-purine-2,6-dione,

- 3-Methyl-7-(3-methyl-butyl) -8-piperazin-1-yl-3,7-dihydro-purine-2,6-dione,
- 7-Butyl-3-methyl-8-piperazin-1-yl-3,7-dihydro-purine-2,6-dione,
- 3-Methyl-7-(3-phenyl-propyl) -8-piperazin-1-yl-3,7-dihydro-purine-2,6-dione,
- 7-But-2-enyl-3-methyl-8-piperazin-1-yl-3,7-dihydro-purine-2,6-dione,
- 5 7-(3-Chloro-but-2-enyl) -3-methyl-8-piperazin-1-yl-3,7-dihydro-purine-2,6-dione,
 - 7-Heptyl-3-methyl-8-piperazin-1-yl-3,7-dihydro-purine-2,6-dione,
 - 3-Methyl-7-(1-phenyl-ethyl) -8-piperazin-1-yl-3,7-dihydro-purine-2,6-dione,
 - 3-Methyl-7-(3-methyl-benzyl) -8-piperazin-1-yl-3,7-dihydro-purine-2,6-dione,
 - 3-Methyl-7-propyl-8-piperazin-1-yl-3,7-dihydro-purine-2,6-dione, and
- 10 3-Methyl-7-pentyl-8-piperazin-1-yl-3,7-dihydro-purine-2,6-dione.
 - 2. A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one compound according to claim 1 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.